

# AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE MONTH

By Section 2 DAC

## Notable Facts Did you know?

- The American Revolution, also called **United States War of Independence** or **American Revolutionary War**, (1775–83), where 13 of **Great Britain's** North American colonies won political independence and went on to form the United States of America.
- The war followed more than a decade of growing estrangement between the British crown and a large and influential segment of its North American colonies that was caused by British attempts to assert greater control over colonial affairs (for background see [United States](#)).
- Until early in 1778 the conflict was a civil war within the British Empire; afterward it became an international war as France (in 1778), Spain (in 1779), and the Netherlands (in 1780) joined the colonies against Britain.
- From the beginning, sea power was vital in determining the course of the war, lending to British strategy a flexibility that helped compensate for the comparatively small numbers of troops sent to America, and ultimately enabling the French to help bring about the final British surrender at Yorktown.

The **Lewis and Clark Expedition**, also known as the **Corps of Discovery Expedition**, was the first American expedition to cross what is now the western portion of the United States, departing in May 1804, from near St. Louis on the Mississippi River, making their way westward through the continental divide to the Pacific coast.

**References to Lewis and Clark "scarcely appeared" in history books even during the United States Centennial in 1876 and the expedition was largely forgotten.**

**Lewis and Clark began to gain new attention around the start of the 20th century. Both the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition, in St. Louis, and the 1905 Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition, in Portland, Oregon, showcased Lewis and Clark as American pioneers.**



